

**Permitting & Assistance Branch Staff Report**  
 New Solid Waste Facilities Permit for the  
 EDCO Recycling and Transfer Facility  
 SWIS No. 19-AA-1112  
 May 26, 2011

**Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:**

This report was developed in response to the Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health, Local Enforcement Agency's (LEA) request for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (Department) concurrence on the issuance of a proposed new Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) for the EDCO Recycling and Transfer Facility, SWIS No. 19-AA-1112, located in Los Angeles County and owned by Robert W. Lee and Aurora Lee Family Trust, PhilEsp LLC., and John R. Cockriel and Patricia Cockriel Family Trust, and operated by EDCO Transport Service LLC. A copy of the proposed permit is attached. The report contains Permitting & Assistance Branch staff's analysis, findings, and recommendations.

The proposed permit was initially received on May 5, 2011. The most recent version of the proposed permit was received on May 9, 2011. Action must be taken on this permit no later than July 8, 2011. If no action is taken by July 8, 2011, the Department will be deemed to have concurred with the issuance of the proposed revised permit.

**Proposed Changes**

The following are key parameters of the proposed permit:

	Proposed Permit (New)
Name of Facility	EDCO Recycling and Transfer Facility
Facility Location	2755 California Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755
Permitted Operation	Transfer/Processing Facility (MRF)
Permitted Hours of Operation	Receipt/Processing/Transfer of Material - 24 hours per day, 7 days per week Public Hours - 5:00am - 10:00 pm
Permitted Tons per Operating Day	1,500 Tons/Day
Permitted Traffic Volume	1,656 PCE <sup>1</sup> Vehicles/Day
Permitted Area (acres)	3.75 acres

1. PCE = Passenger Car Equivalent

**Findings:**

Staff recommends concurrence in the issuance of the proposed new SWFP. All of the required submittals and findings required by Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), Section 21685 have been provided and made. Staff has determined that the California

Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements have been met to support concurrence. The findings that are required to be made by the Department when reaching a determination are summarized in the following table. The documents on which staff's findings are based have been provided to the Acting Director with this Staff Report and are permanently maintained in the facility files maintained by the Permits and Certification Division.

27 CCR Sections	Findings	
21685(b)(1) LEA Certified Complete and Correct Report of Facility Information	The LEA provided the required certification in their permit submittal letter dated May 2, 2011.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(2) LEA Five Year Permit Review	A Permit Review Report is not required as this is a new large volume transfer/processing facility.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(3) Solid Waste Facility Permit	The LEA submitted a proposed Solid Waste Facilities Permit on May 9, 2011.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685 (b)(4)(A) Consistency with Public Resources Code 50001	The LEA in their permit submittal package received on May 5, 2011, provided a finding that the facility is consistent with PRC 50001. Waste Evaluation & Enforcement Branch (WEEB) staff in the Jurisdiction Product & Compliance Unit found the facility is identified in the Non-Disposal Facility Element and with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, as described in the memorandum dated June 21, 2011.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(8) Operations Consistent with State Minimum Standards	Permitting and Assistance Branch staff has determined that the facility design and operations as described in the September 2010 Transfer/Processing Report would allow the facility to comply with all applicable State Minimum Standards. See compliance history below for details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21685(b)(9) LEA CEQA Finding	The LEA provided a finding in their permit submittal package received on May 5, 2011, that the proposed permit is consistent with and supported by the existing CEQA documentation. See details below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
21650(g)(5) Public Notice and/or Meeting, Comments	A Public Informational Meeting was held by the LEA on March 23, 2011. No oral or written comments were received by LEA or Department staff. See details below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable
CEQA Determination to Support Responsible Agency's Findings	Permitting and Assistance Branch has determined that the CEQA record can be used to support the Branch Chief's action on the proposed new SWFP. See details below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable

**Compliance History:**

This is a new facility currently under construction, and operations have not commenced; therefore, a pre-permit inspection is not required at this time.

**Environmental Analysis:**

Under CEQA, the Department must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed SWFP before the Department concurs in it. In this case, the Department is a Responsible Agency under CEQA and must utilize the environmental document prepared by the City of Signal Hill, Redevelopment Agency, acting as Lead Agency, absent changes in the project or the circumstances under which it will be carried out that justify the preparation of additional environmental documents and absent significant new information about the project, its impacts and the mitigation measures imposed on it.

The proposed project as described in the Environmental Impact Report is for the development of a 68,000 square feet recycling and transfer facility on a 3.75 acre site in the City of Signal Hill. The facility will serve as a point to accept, process, recover, and transfer mixed municipal solid waste following diversion activities to an appropriate permitted disposal facility. The proposed project include office administration, material recovery operations, transfer/self haul load out areas, green waste operations, construction demolition debris operations, and maintenance. The facility will be equipped with emission control systems for air quality, noise, odor, and dust.

The City of Signal Hill, Redevelopment Agency, prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report, State Clearinghouse No. 2008081009, and circulated it for a 45 day public comment period from November 12, 2008 through December 26, 2008. On February 17, 2009, the City of Signal Hill, Redevelopment Agency, certified the Environmental Impact Report for the EDCO Recycling and Transfer Facility. Mitigation measures were identified for Hazardous Materials, Cultural Resources, and Biological Resources. All potentially significant impacts were determined to be less than significant or reduced to less than significant after mitigation. A Notice of Determination was filed with the State Clearinghouse on February 23, 2009.

The County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health, Solid Waste Management Program (LEA) provided a finding that the proposed SWFP is consistent with and is supported by the Environmental Impact Report described above.

Staff recommends that the Department, acting as a Responsible Agency under CEQA, utilize the Environmental Impact Report as prepared by the City of Signal Hill, Redevelopment Agency, in that there are no grounds under CEQA for the Department to prepare a subsequent or supplemental environmental document or assume the role of Lead Agency for its consideration of the proposed SWFP.

Department staff has reviewed and considered the Environmental Impact Report prepared by the City of Signal Hill, Redevelopment Agency. Department staff further recommends the Environmental Impact Report is adequate for the Branch Chief's environmental evaluation of the proposed project for those project activities which are within the Department's expertise and authority, or which are required to be carried out or approved by the Department.

The administrative record for the decision to be made by the Department includes the administrative record before the LEA, the proposed SWFP and all of its components and

supporting documentation, this staff report, the Environmental Impact Report certified by the Lead Agency, and other documents and materials utilized by the Department in reaching its decision on concurrence in, or objection to, the proposed SWFP. The custodian of the Department's administrative record is Dona Sturgess, Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025.

**Local Issues:**

The project document availability, hearings, and associated meetings were extensively noticed consistent with the CEQA and SWFP requirements. A review from the public process indicates that environmental justice issues were not identified by the surrounding community (Census Tract 5734.01). Census information indicates that the surrounding population is approximately 43.3% White, 11.1% African American, 17.5% Asian, 1.0% American Indian and Alaska Native, 2.4% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 17.6% some other race, and 7.1% two or more races. 38.2% of the total population describe themselves as Hispanic or Latino. 13.3% of the families are below the poverty level. Staff has not identified any local issues related to this item. Staff finds the project and permit process to be consistent with Government Code Section 65040.12, as there has been fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the proposed action being recommended above.

**Public Comments:**

The LEA held a public informational meeting on March 23, 2011, at City Hall, located at 2175 Cherry Avenue, in the City of Signal Hill. One member of the public attended. No oral or written comments were received by the LEA or Department staff.

The Department staff provided an opportunity for public comment during the CalRecycle Monthly Public Meeting on June 17, 2011.

**Department Staff Actions:**

Staff has worked with the LEA throughout the permit process by providing comments on permitting documents and attended the public meeting where the project was discussed.